

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"Never iron a four-leaf clover, because you don't want to press your luck." ~
Author Unknown*



Friday, March 20, 2009



Nearly three dozen members of the Northern Region Strategic Planning Team spent two days working with a consultant from the National Institute of Corrections to continue work on the strategic plan. Input from everyone is needed to establish and implement the plan. Send your input to Tom Hanlon or Nancy Riley in the Central Region, Richard Newton or Alan Finnan in the Southern Region, or John Schrader or Mark Levenhagen in the Northern Region.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility received the Silver Award from Indiana's First Lady Cheri Daniels at the Indiana Statehouse for its contribution to the State Employees' Community Campaign (SECC).

Henryville Correctional Facility hosted Walter D. Smith, a speaker, entrepreneur, professional body builder, and radio talk show host. Mr. Smith spoke to the offender population about going "Against All Odds." His speech discussed overcoming a severe drug addiction, self-destructive behavior, and cigarette addiction, and he included information on health, fitness nutrition, exercise, and self-improvement. Mr. Smith was the first offender ever exonerated in the country due to DNA evidence. He had been sentenced to serve 78 to 190 years in prison.

South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility will be hosting its first "IRON Chef" contest. Selected students from the I2W class will be competing against each other in preparing a meal (meat, starch, vegetable, and dessert) in two hours. The winner will be selected by various staff and a guest chef.

7 Martin University students and their instructor, IDOC Legislative Director Tim Brown, recently toured Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted its second PREP weekend for offenders and their spouses. A total of 7 spouses attended the relationship enhancement retreat and have already provided outstanding feedback.

Indiana University Northwest Art Galleries for Contemporary Art and the Education Department for the Indiana State Prison are helping ISP Artist Guild offenders exhibit their work. The exhibit will be at the SubStation No. 9, located at 435 Fayette Street, Hammond, IN, and will run until April 17. The title for the exhibit is: "Artists Within: Behind the Walls of Indiana State Prison, Michigan City."

25 offenders were recognized for completing the PLUS Program during a graduation ceremony conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility received a donation of 70 pairs of shoes from Samaritan's Feet for its Dress for Re-Entry clothing bank. The donation included pairs of steel-toed boots to be used by the facility's INDOT crew.

Henryville Correctional Facility welcomed a volunteer teacher from the Floyd County Community School Corporation.

Miami Correctional Facility held an offender food sale of Kentucky Fried Chicken, collecting approximately \$9,000 in profit for the PLUS Unit.

Pendleton Correctional Facility is donating \$500 to Central Office for the Crime Stoppers project. The donation was made possible by fundraising activities sponsored by the facility's PLUS Program, Inside Out Dad Program, and American Legion group.

Recently, residents of the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility Building Trades class assisted with a Habitat for Humanity project in Danville, IN. The residents helped lay the block foundation for a house to be built this spring.

Henryville Correctional Facility had 3 offenders graduate this week with their GEDs.

Wabash Valley's Fatherhood Program donated \$1,000 to the Wabash Valley Chapter of the March of Dimes.

PEN Products staff Doug Evans and Lisa Williams visited the Plainfield Correctional Facility to discuss implementing a job placement program for offenders through a U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program.

Correctional Industrial Facility held a Walking Taco/Ice Cream Float sale to fundraise for employee appreciation week.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner